



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

Meeting Minutes

May 3, 2013

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower

Second Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present

C.T. Wright (Chairman), Becky Brimhall-Lepire (Vice-Chairman), Charles Brown, George Evanoff, Bernadine Hoffman, Deborah Lavinsky, Teresa Lopez, Doyle Meredith (Secretary), Lisa O'Neill, Allison Perrin, Karen Zanzucchi, Eric Coleman, Vanessa Deatherage, Cydney Demodica, Jay Dunkleberger, Babak Nayeri, Melanie Starns (telephonically) and Tiffany Yazzie

Council Members Absent

Joy Grainger, Anne Morrison and Trudy Schuett

Council Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa, Kim Jennings, and Berntari Crosby

Guests Present and Signing In

Pattie Hyland

Call to Order & Welcome

Council Chairman C.T. Wright called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Council Chairman Wright circulated the Older Americans Month proclamation from Governor Janice K. Brewer.

Review & Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the March 8, 2013 meeting were reviewed. *Doyle Meredith made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Council Chair Report

Council Chairman C.T. Wright reported that the Council held an ice cream social on March 21st at the Legislature, and he thanked SRP for their sponsorship of the ice cream as well as Council members for their participation. Council Chairman Wright stated the purpose of the social was to build awareness of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. Council Chairman Wright reported he attended the 25th Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference, the Department of

Economic Security Director's stakeholders meeting, and that he would be attending the Maricopa Association of Governments – MAG "Connecting Caring Communities" conference on May 14th.

Executive Director's Office Updates

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported the Governor's Office on Aging will have three staff members and three Council members volunteering as part of the sixth co-sponsorship of the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium Event on May 24th. Ms. De Lisa announced the launch of a dentist recognition program in partnership with the Arizona Dental Foundation; the recognition program is one of the SHAC Oral Health Sub-Committee three-year work plan goals. Executive Director De Lisa provided updates on the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force, the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition and stated Aging 2020 state agency updates for 2012 had been posted to the Governor's Office on Aging website. Ms. De Lisa reported that she is working on the Council's 2014 operating budget with the DES Assistant Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services.

Council Member Reports

Bernadine Hoffman – shared updates related to City of Scottsdale's budget.

George Evanoff – reported the Centenarian Celebration was being held that date in Tucson and that Council Member, Anne Morrison was helping host the event.

Doyle Meredith – shared an update on economic growth in the greater Prescott area.

Allison Perrin – reported on Banner Alzheimer's Institute's Dementia Care Pathways program development.

Teresa Lopez – shared information on the Morrison Institute's focus group regarding Latino educational disparities.

Deborah Lavinsky – reported economic growth in her neighborhood as well as growth in private assisted living homes.

Karen Zanzucchi – requested more information on low-cost oral health services.

Becky Brimhall-Lepire – reported on free activities available in and around Carefree.

Charles Brown – reported on the Lions eye mobile offering services in his area, and the retirement of long-standing SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization SEAGO Area Agency on Aging Director, Kathleen Heard.

Liaison Reports

Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) – Cydney Demodica reported that ADOT staff member Dan Harrigan would be providing an update to the Council on special needs transportation and mobility management at the July meeting. Ms. Demodica also reported the Medical Review program is revising the form used by physicians to recommend restricts for at-risk drivers of all ages. As part of her role with the Older Driver Safety Report Review Committee, Ms. Demodica stated she was making revisions to the GrandDriver brochure and hoped to post it online with Department of Public Safety and ADOT.

Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) – Tiffany Yazzie reported on behalf of Phyllis Antone. Ms. Yazzie gave a presentation on the 25th Annual Arizona Indian Council on Aging Conference held on April 15-18, 2013 at Talking Stick Resort. A copy of the presentation is available at the Council on Aging office.

Area Agencies on Aging/Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (Az4A) – Ms. Kennedy was not able to attend.

Arizona Department of Economic Security /Division of Aging & Adult Services (DAAS) - Melanie Starns reported that seventeen (17) focus groups were being held around the state in preparation for the next submission of the State Plan on Aging. These are in addition to Area Agency needs assessments and are intended to gather a broader perspective with inclusion of groups such as working caregivers, veterans, and LGBT populations. An important but frustrating finding so far, Ms. Starns noted, is that people still don't know that services and the Aging Network exist. Once completed the forum discussions will be summarized and that input will be incorporated into the actions set forth in the State Plan on Aging submission in 2014. Ms. Starns also provided an overview of the impact of sequestration at the federal level for Older Americans Act funding, which amounts to just under a \$2 million reduction out of approximately \$22 million. This cut will likely result in longer waiting lists for services and some services being eliminated all together by Area Agencies on Aging (AAA). Finally, according to Ms. Starns, Adult Protective Services (APS) continues to receive high numbers of calls and cases. Last year, APS had a 28 percent increase in cases over the previous year, and so far this year, we have a 23 percent increase over last. The caseload/investigator goal is 25 for rural and 45 for urban, but that for the past couple of years APS has been running 50-60 in rural and often 150+ in urban areas.

Arizona Department of Health Services – (ADHS) Dr. Babak Nayeri gave an update from ADHS that included information on Arizona Healthy Aging – A-HA, a partnership with DAAS on the regional focus groups, and plans to develop a blueprint for preparing healthcare providers on the needs of Baby Boomers.

Arizona Department of Insurance – Liaison assignment pending

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Jay Dunkleberger reported the AHCCCS priorities for 2013 include advancing member directive options. According to Mr. Dunkleberger:

- a. AHCCS submitted an update on state plan amendment specifying how it will be processed to the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services in October. Agency has not received approval yet, but agency is still in the question and answer phase with staff.
- b. AHCCS is finalizing a guide for members and families to use when choosing member-directed options. It should be available October 1st and will be posted on the AHCCCS website.

Another priority for AHCCCS involves improving care for dual eligible members (Medicaid/Medicare). According to Mr. Dunkleberger:

- a. On April 10th, AHCCCS withdrew its proposal to participate in the federal demonstration program.
 - i. Many of impacted members in Arizona are already aligned with Medicare plans.
 - ii. Status of Affordable Care Act participation, current and plan contract procurements.
- b. Agency will still pursue the goals of the project by working within our system- i.e. encouraging members choosing Arizona Long Term Care System and acute

plans to choose the same plan as their Medicare plan, encouraging our agency's plans to align internally wherever possible.

Professionalization of the direct care workforce is also a priority for AHCCCS. According to Mr. Dunkleberger agency prepared a report on home and community based programs and worked on the operational/financial review with federal and state providers. The report is completed and posted on following website: <http://www.azahcccs.gov/reporting/reports/federal.aspx>.

Attorney General's Office (AG) –Vanessa Deatherage informed the Council that several bills forwarded from the legislature that directly impact the work of the AG's office were signed by Governor Janice K. Brewer. According to Ms. Deatherage, the AG's office is planning to partner with Homeland Security in an effort to combat elder abuse.

Arizona Department of Veterans' Services – Eric Coleman reported many veterans are not prepared to take on the cost of their care, only those with 70% service-connected disability qualify for long-term care services through the VA, and the Department is in the process of assisting veterans with applications for award of such services. According to Mr. Coleman, a second veterans' home has opened in Tucson, and the Phoenix facility is a four-star facility now due to system changes and management change.

Chairman C.T. Wright adjourned the meeting at 12:05 p.m. for a fifteen minute break.

Chairman C.T. Wright reconvened the meeting at 12:20 p.m.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Chairman C.T. Wright informed the Council of plans to schedule Senior Action Days during the first two weeks in October. Chairman Wright stated the By-Laws have been reviewed and draft revisions are scheduled to be posted on the website following the Council meeting and in advance of the July Council meeting.

Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC) – Committee Chairwoman Bernadine Hoffman informed the Council that LPCC was provided with Older Americans Month statistics and facts from the Administration on Aging's webpage and the Committee reviewed the Short List of legislative bills tracked by the Council's staff.

Mature Workforce Committee (MWC) – Committee Chairwoman Becky Brimhall-Lepire informed Council that MWC acknowledged Older Americans Month. Ms. Brimhall-Lepire reported that Dave Eppihimer from the Oasis Institute of Tucson, Arizona gave a presentation on the Oasis Institute, and Dr. Richard Knopf of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute of Arizona State University gave a presentation on the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute. According to Ms. Brimhall-Lepire, the MWC broke out into the three Sub-Committees during the meeting and report backs were provided from each of the Sub-Committees.

Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC) – Council Member Deborah Lavinsky gave the following report on behalf of Committee Chairwoman Anne Morrison:

- SHAC members discussed May as Older Americans Month;

- Genny Rose, Executive Director for Leading Age Arizona, provided a presentation on Trends in Continuum of Care Retirement Communities;
- Brittany Carter, Director of Education and Program Development, Arizona Health Care Association, provided a presentation on Specialty Care in Assisted Living & Skilled Nursing Facilities;
- Michele Michaels, Hard of Hearing Specialist with the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing (ACDHH), provided an update on ACDHH, an array of resources and informed the Committee that May is Better Hearing and Speech Month; and
- Phil Carll of the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter updated the group on the work around the National Alzheimer's Project Act (NAPA) and the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force.

Older Driver Safety Report Review Committee (ODSRRC) – Past Chairman George Evanoff provided a brief update on the April 26, 2013 meeting and the “Older Driver Evaluations – Fact Sheet for Physicians” and stated the final form will be presented to the Council for approval.

Announcements

Charles Brown announced his involvement with the Tohono O’odham Indian Tribe and an invitation he received to a special event sponsored by that group.

Deborah Lavinsky announced a celebration on May 18th at Beth El Congregation (Phoenix) for a 101 year old member and Holocaust survivor who will be celebrating the 88th anniversary of his Bar mitzvah.

Babak Nayeri announced the Arizona Healthy Aging website.

Tiffany Yazzie announced a proclamation for Elder Day will be presented at the May 11th conference at Desert Diamond Casino in Tucson and that the next AICOA quarterly meeting will be at Hon Dah Resort in June.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chairman C.T. Wright at 12:43 pm.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for July 12, 2013; date and location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: www.azgovernor.gov/gaca. These meetings are open to the public.